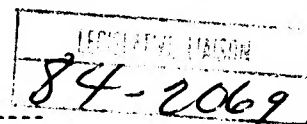


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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5670
RUEHDC/USDOC WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 08145

DEPT FOR OES/OFA, EAP/J
USDOC FOR NOAA/NMFS F/M321, F/M2 (FITCH), F/SWR1 (IVERSEN)

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, JA, ETRD, BEXP, EIAD

SUBJECT: GOJ REVIEW OF APPLICATION TO EXPORT VESSEL

REF: STATE 104888

1. SUMMARY. GOJ MOFA IS REVIEWING FAJ DENIAL OF APPLICATION TO EXPORT PROCESSING VESSEL. MOFA APPRECIATES USG DECISION NOT TO RAISE GATT ISSUE AT THIS TIME. MOFA IS PREPARING AN ANSWER TO LETTER FROM SENATOR MURKOWSKI. END SUMMARY.
2. (U) ON APRIL 12, 1984, REGIONAL FISHATT MET WITH AKIRA MORIGA OF SECOND NORTH AMERICA DIVISION, NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, MOFA REGARDING REFTEL (STATE 104888) AND MOFA ACTION ON MARCH 16, 1984 LETTER ON SUBJECT VESSEL TAISEI MARU FROM SENATOR FRANK MURKOWSKI TO FOREIGN MINISTER SHINTARO ABE.
3. (LOU) REGIONAL FISHATT TOLD MORIGA THAT EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS ON MATTER FROM WASHINGTON AND ASKED FOR "FAVORABLE GOJ DECISION ON SALE AND DELIVERY OF SURPLUS VESSEL." RFA FORMALLY ASKED "MOFA ASSISTANCE IN GETTING APPROVAL" AND TOLD MORIGA THAT WE BELIEVE "THERE IS NO BASIS FOR DENYING THE APPLICATION." RFA STATED THAT USG WOULD NOT RAISE GATT ISSUE AT THIS TIME. MORIGA SAID HE WOULD DISCUSS REQUEST FOR MOFA ASSISTANCE WITH HIS SUPERIORS.
4. (LOU) MORIGA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION THAT WASHINGTON HAD DECIDED NOT TO RAISE GATT ISSUE. HE STATED THAT SUCH AN APPROACH COULD RESULT IN VIOLENT REACTION DUE TO POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF FISHERIES IN JAPAN. HE ALSO STATED THAT THOUGH HE HAD ONLY STARTED WORK IN THE SECTION ON APRIL 1, 1984, HIS CONTACTS WITH THE FISHERIES AGENCY OF JAPAN ON THE TAISEI MARU MATTER EVIDENCED A VERY HARDFAST POSITION. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE HAS BEEN DISCUSSING THE MATTER WITH COLLEAGUES IN MOFA AS WELL AS WITH FAJ OFFICIALS BUT COULD NOT GIVE A SPECIFIC TIME IN WHICH TO EXPECT A DECISION.
5. (U) MORIGA TOLD RFA THAT SENATOR MURKOWSKI LETTER

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HAD BEEN RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY MARCH 20, 1984 WHEN
SECTION PERSONNEL HAD BEEN ATTENDING TO USG/GOJ
AGRICULTURAL TRADE MATTERS. IN ADDITION, PERSON
RESPONSIBLE FOR ANSWER WAS RECENTLY ADMITTED
TO HOSPITAL FOR OPERATION. THEREFORE, MOFA DID
NOT INTEND TO NEGLECT ANSWER AND IS TREATING ISSUE
AS "AN IMPORTANT ISSUE."

6. (U) AMBASSREQUEST EAP/J (ANDERSOO) TO
COMMUNICATE SUBSTANCE OF THIS CABLE TO SENATORS
MURKOWSKI AND STEVENS AND REPRESENTATIVE YOUNG.

MANSFIELD
END OF MESSAGE

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